

## Southern Connecticut Polymer Clay Guild

Website: <http://scpcg.org>



# Now-A-Newsletter

Meeting on: September 21st, at 11:00 am

NAN Submissions: [scpcgnan@gmail.com](mailto:scpcgnan@gmail.com)

Meeting Location: **Hagaman Library**

Carole Monahan-Kampfe, President: [compelledcraft@ymail.com](mailto:compelledcraft@ymail.com)

NAN Submitted by Michelle Pini

Helen Wyland Malchow, VP: [silverthumb@earthlink.net](mailto:silverthumb@earthlink.net)

### TAKE NOTE

Please look to see if you have any Library materials and return them to the September meeting.

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Is anyone interested in carpooling to the Paradise Show (see page 2)? If you are but will not be at the meeting, please send an email to let us know. [scpcgnan@gmail.com](mailto:scpcgnan@gmail.com)

### MEETING AGENDA

**Demo** – New Mica Powders with Stencils – Laura Blakely

**Recap:** Helen Malchow's 2 day Hollow Form class. If you had the pleasure of attending Helen's class, please bring your box to the meeting to share with the group. Thank you Helen for a fabulous class!!!!

**Ronald McDonald House Tree Theme** – All Creatures Great and Small

Carol found a source of inspiration for this theme, so if you have no ideas on what to do, check out this site:

[https://www.pinterest.com/compelledcraft/creatures-great-and-small/?sender=346425533745080124&invite\\_code=bb9b8689e03d4efd803f03f64de1f21a](https://www.pinterest.com/compelledcraft/creatures-great-and-small/?sender=346425533745080124&invite_code=bb9b8689e03d4efd803f03f64de1f21a)

**Show and Help** - We all have items we bought, or picked up at the tag sale but have no idea what to do with it. Bring the item/photo in, send a picture to the NAN, or even a detailed description. We will discuss the item at the meeting and try to offer up ideas on what to do with the item. This will be on going, so scrounge up that questionable item and we'll get some creative ideas brewing.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Demos:

November: Simple but versatile canes - Lori

December: Potluck Holiday party and destash raffle (for you newbies you DON'T want to miss this!)

TBD- Inside Out Cane - Marilyn

TBD- Translucent Candle Jars -Vickie

TBD- Starburst Cane – Vickie

TBD: Apps for color combos and designing canes and silk screens – Carole

TBD: How to organize your digital life – Dorian

If you can't do the demos as this time please let Carole know via email.

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**City Wide Open Studios 2019 (October 4<sup>th</sup> – November 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

<https://artspacenewhaven.org/cwos-home/cwos-artist-info/>

## SHOWS

Helen will be taking part in the Paradise City Arts Festival.

<https://festivals.paradisecityarts.com/artist-showcase/mixed-media>

**Annual Paradise City Arts Festival!** 225 outstanding artists and makers from every corner of America travel to Northampton, Massachusetts for three days of astounding visual arts, eye-popping design, scrumptious food, lots of activities and special events. The festival is held inside three large, airy Exhibition Buildings connected by covered walkways and under the 12,000 square-foot Festival Dining Tent. This sprawling, thrilling showcase for the arts is an experience like no other – beautiful, unique, festive and fun. Explore the illustrated list of our 2019 Exhibitors, and view every artist from all of 2019 in the Artist Showcase. *Sorry, no dogs allowed*

54 Old Ferry Road  
 Northampton, MA 01060

<https://festivals.paradisecityarts.com/shows/northampton-october-show>

### **Show Hours:**

Saturday: 10 am-6 pm, Sunday: 10 am-5 pm, Monday: 10 am-4 pm

**Admission:** Adults: \$14 | Seniors 65+: \$12 Students: \$8 | Three-day pass: \$16 Children 12 and under free



## CLASS REVIEW

*Class:* **Hollow Forms Vessels and Containers**

*Instructor:* **Helen Wyland-Malchow**

*5 Star class.* ★★★★★

*Review by:* Michelle Pini

It was a cool overcast morning on September 14<sup>th</sup> as a group of eager students gathered at the Foxon Firehouse. Slab Rollers (pasta machines) were setup, clay was opened and a group of rowdy eager students were ready to learn the magic of the hollow form. Helen, who is a high school art teacher by profession, and all around amazing artist, quickly grabbed everyone's attention as she explained what she was going to show us throughout the weekend. She then sent us to our tables to begin constructing our templates and the veneers for the boxes.

The first day I struggled, we were told to create an organic shape, simple yet interesting. For those who know me, organic is not something I do, I mean not at all. Helen of course had some tips and tricks to help those of us "organically" challenged and I eventually came up with a usable shape. However not having really thought much about what veneers I wanted to make, and having brought limited clay colors, I found myself creating non-organic veneers.

**Lesson number one** (from my perspective), using a non-organic veneer on an organic shape just does not work. When creating you want your piece to call to the viewer and touch that creative element inside them. All my piece said was RUN!

Helen was extremely encouraging to everyone. Her most frequently used word was "Happiness" and "Happiness Abounds." That is something to note, if you hate laughter, shared comradery, creativity and joy, do NOT take her class. However if thrive in a relaxed, creative environment, this class is for you. Fair warning Helen has her own dictionary which she adds to on the fly. Here are some of my favorite words used over the weekend: Swish Mish, Goober, Wonky, Werble Derbles, Wiggle Jiggle, Ishcabible, and Booger Balls. Yes you heard me right, Booger Balls. Her dictionary and teaching style not only kept us awake, and creative, it kept a smile on our faces the entire weekend.

For those of us (yes me) who were slightly behind, day two unveiled the secret of the walls and keeping the hollow form hollow. No you can twist my arm all you want but I won't tell, like a magician you must study under the master to learn her secrets. Once the walls and sides were in place the curing then commenced.

**Lesson number two:** Vent, Vent, Vent. When baking, especially large amounts of clay you want to make sure you are venting out the fumes and getting some fresh air into the room. Luckily it was a beautiful Sunday and we could open the doors. It's funny how I didn't even notice the fumes until I stepped out for a bit and then came back in. That's a learning tip for everyone, it's easy to forget.

The boxes emerged from the ovens and the box opening had to be cut. Note: do not cut into baked clay when it is too hot, you will get raggedy internal edges, Yes that is **Lesson number three**.

Overall it was an incredible class, and a fun weekend for all (I think I can speak for everyone that attended).

No I don't like my box, I kind of like the organic shape (gasp!). Hate my veneers, but boy did I learn a lot. I can't wait to try making another box, giving more thought to the veneers I choose. I already have some different variations I want to try. We all left with a baked box which is a feet in and of itself. I just want to say to Helen from all of us thank you for a fabulous class!

*Photos page 4 →*





## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

At Helen's class, Carol brought her photography light box. If anyone is interested here is the link and a photo of it:

[https://www.amazon.com/Fotodiox-24x24-Studio-Table-Photography/dp/B01GP27P9A/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?keywords=Fotodiox+led+24+inch+photo+box&qid=1568811002&sr=8-3](https://www.amazon.com/Fotodiox-24x24-Studio-Table-Photography/dp/B01GP27P9A/ref=sr_1_3?keywords=Fotodiox+led+24+inch+photo+box&qid=1568811002&sr=8-3)



### Fotodiox Pro LED 24x24 Studio-in-a-Box for Table Top Photography - Includes Light Tent; Integrated LED Lights; Carrying case and Four backdrops

by Fotodiox

★★★★☆ 104 ratings | 39 answered questions

Price: \$109.95 ✓prime & FREE Returns

Get \$70 off instantly: Pay \$39.95 ~~\$109.95~~ upon approval for the Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Card. No annual fee.

Free Amazon product support included

Size: 24x24" (60x60cm)

16x16" (40x40cm) \$69.95 ✓prime	20x20" (50x50cm) \$99.51 ✓prime	24x24" (60x60cm) \$109.95 ✓prime
28x28" (70x70cm) \$119.95 ✓prime		

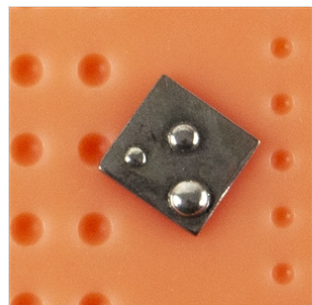
- Comes with integrated LED lights & diffusion panel
- The studio Folds up into a self-contained carrying case
- Compact and adequate work space 24x24"
- Comes with Four choices of backdrops- Blue; white; gray and Black

Also from Carol: "This new tool from Cool Tools would be great to make a batch of mini dots! Other shapes circles triangles screws. I would say it needs very soft clay to scrape across the surface or liquid clay even."

<https://www.cooltools.us/Finishing-Touches-Mold-Round-Domed-p/ftm-001.htm>

Home > Using Finishing Touch Molds to Embellish Hoop Earrings by Karen Trexler >

### NEW! FINISHING TOUCHES MOLD - ROUND DOMED



View Larger Photo

Email A Friend

Like 0

Additional Photos:



Price: \$15.95

Product Dimensions: 3" x 5"

Made in USA

## ✧ TRAVELING EXHIBIT ✧

The Traveling Exhibit – Dorian Merriman-Boddy is our Traveling Exhibit Coordinator. With setup help from a number of other members, our Exhibit will continue to inspire those with artistic interest.

**Traveling Exhibit Locations:** TBD

Contact Dorian to schedule the Traveling Exhibit in a Library or other public space near you.  
[dorianmboddy@gmail.com](mailto:dorianmboddy@gmail.com)

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## ✧ MEETING MINUTES ✧

11 members attended our August meeting.  
 Discussed theme for Ronald McDonald House Tree  
 Discussed Helen Wyland Malchow's upcoming class  
 Show and Help

## ✧ New Members ✧

New Members are always Welcome!

### Where we meet:

#### Sept-June:



Hagaman Library;  
 227 Main Street  
 East Haven, CT 06512  
 (203) 468-3890

#### July & August:



Stop & Shop-Conference Rm  
 370 Hemingway Ave  
 East Haven, CT 06512  
 (203) 468-7012  
 (Conference Room-Front Left Corner)

Meetings are usually on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11 am. Check our website for location/time changes, or email us. All interested are welcome to attend and join.  
 (There is no fee for the first meeting, so come see what we're about)

### Southern CT Polymer Clay Guild



Visit our guild website:  
<http://www.scpcg.org>

The Bottles of Hope website is:  
<http://www.bottlesofhope.org>

SCPCG Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/scpcg.org>